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PATENT
8014-1004

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Atsushi SUZUKI et al.

Appl. No.:

Group:

Filed:

January 23, 2002

Examiner:

For:

AIR FILTER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

January 23, 2002

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

--3. (Amended) The air filter as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising an additional layer.

4. (Amended) The air filter as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:
said first filter layer has a pore size of from 70 mm to 120 mm and said second filter layer has a pore size of from 100 mm to 180 mm.

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5. (Amended) The air filter as claimed in Claim 1,
wherein:

said second filter layer has a downstream end, which is
exposed.

6. (Amended) The air filter as claimed in Claim 2,
wherein:

said second filter layer is subjected to an oil-repellent
treatment and then said first filter layer and said second
filter layer are combined integrally with each other.

7. (Amended) The air filter as claimed in Claim 2, wherein:
said first filter layer and second filter layer are combined
integrally each other; and then,

said second filter layer is subjected to an oil-repellent
treatment and said first filter layer is impregnated with oil.--

Please add the following claims:

--8. (New) The air filter as claimed in Claim 2, further
comprising an additional layer.

9. (New) The air filter as claimed in Claim 3, wherein:
said first filter layer has a pore size of from 70 mm to 120 mm
and said second filter layer has a pore size of from 100 mm to
180 mm.

10. (New) The air filter as claimed in Claim 3, wherein:
said second filter layer is subjected to an oil-repellent
treatment and then said first filter layer and said second
filter layer are combined integrally with each other.

11. (New) The air filter as claimed in Claim 3, wherein:
said first filter layer and second filter layer are combined
integrally each other; and then,
said second filter layer is subjected to an oil-
repellent treatment and said first filter layer is impregnated
with oil.-

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 pending in the present application. Claims
8-11 have been added.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited.
An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly
requested.

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in
the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested
to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes
made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is
captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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BC/bam
Attachments

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

3. (Amended) The air filter as claimed in Claim ~~1 or 2~~, further comprising an additional layer.

4. (Amended) The air filter as claimed in ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~, Claim 1, wherein:
said first filter layer has a pore size of from 70 mm to 120 mm and said second filter layer has a pore size of from 100 mm to 180 mm.

5. (Amended) The air filter as claimed in ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4~~, Claim 1, wherein:
said second filter layer has a downstream end, which is exposed.

6. (Amended) The air filter as claimed in ~~any one of Claims 2 to 5~~, Claim 2, wherein:
said second filter layer is subjected to an oil-repellent treatment and then said first filter layer and said second filter layer are combined integrally with each other.

7. (Amended) The air filter as claimed in ~~any one of Claims 2 to 5~~, wherein:
Claim 2, wherein: said first filter layer and second filter layer are combined integrally each other; and then,
said second filter layer is subjected to an oil-repellent treatment and said first filter layer is impregnated with oil.